

New Dear Colleague Letter Clarifies Key Pell “Ability to Benefit” Definition

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A new [“Dear Colleague” letter](#) released May 9, 2016 clarifies changes made by the [Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016](#) to the definition of an eligible career pathway program and Federal Pell Grant award amounts for students enrolled in those programs. Specifically, the letter confirms that the definition of an eligible career pathway program for Pell/ATB purposes is the same definition used in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. A useful Q&A is attached to the letter.

Source: National Council of State Director of Adult Education [blog post, May 10, 2016](#)